

REMARKS

Claims 9 and 10 have been canceled. New claims 45-50 have been added. Claims 1-8 and 11-50 are thus currently pending in this application. Claims 1, 11-13, 16, 17, 20 and 30 have been amended. No new matter has been added by these amendments or additions. Applicants have carefully reviewed the positions presented in the Office Action and respectfully request reconsideration of the claims in view of the remarks presented below.

Applicant notes that the Office Action did not include a Notice of References Cited (PTO-892), yet numerous documents were applied and made of record in the Office Action. Applicant requests that these documents be formally made of record on a PTO-892 and that such PTO-892 be provided in the next communication issued by the Patent Office.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Specifically, the claim was rejected because the specification fails to disclose how a pressure sensor is adapted to provide temperature data as recited.

Applicant submits that claim 9 is enabled when the specification is viewed in conjunction with U.S. Patent No. 6,042,580, which is incorporated into the specification by reference. See page 11, lines 7-10. However, in order to advance the prosecution of the present application, claim 9 has been canceled. Applicant, however, reserves the right to prosecute claim 9 in a separate related application.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-3, 17, 18, 20 and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,241,724 to *Fleischman et al.* Claims 1-2, 4, 20, 21 30 and 31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,063,022 to *Ben-Haim*.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of dependent claim 10, which was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Thus, claim 1 is believed to be in allowable form. Rejected dependent claims 2-4, 17 and 18 now depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 1 and they too are believed to in allowable form.

Independent claims 20 and 30 have been amended to recite that the indication provided by the processor comprises a visual display of a degree of electrode/tissue contact. This is not disclosed by either *Fleischman et al.* or *Ben-Haim*. Accordingly, Applicant requests reconsideration of the §102 rejections of claims 20 and 30 and their respective dependent claims.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-3 and 5-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,049,737 to *Simpson et al.* in view of *Fleischman et al.*

In view of the amendment of claim 1 to include the limitations of canceled claim 10, Applicant believes that the rejections under §103 are rendered moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 34-44 were allowed. Claims 10-16, 19, 22-28, 32 and 33 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

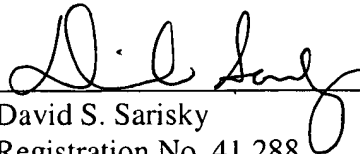
As previously stated, dependent claim 10 has been incorporated into independent claim 1. Objected claims 11-16 and 19 are dependent on amended claim 1. Thus they have not been rewritten in independent form. The subject matter of objected dependent claims 22, 23, 25 and 27 has been combined with that of claim 20 and presented as new independent claims 45, 46, 47 and 48, respectively. The subject matter of objected dependent claims 32 and 33 has been combined with that of claim 30 and presented as new independent claims 49 and 50, respectively.

CONCLUSION

Applicant has made an earnest and bona fide effort to clarify the issues before the Examiner and to place this case in condition for allowance. Therefore, reconsideration and allowance of Applicant's claims 1-8 and 11-50 are believed to be in order and an early Notice of Allowance to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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